

BEFORE
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF
SOUTH CAROLINA
DOCKET NO. 95-1169-C -- ORDER NO. 95-1739
DECEMBER 14, 1995

IN RE: Application of Chester Telephone) ORDER
Company for Approval of Retirement) GRANTING
of Obsolete Digital Central Office) REQUEST
Equipment.

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) on the request of Chester Telephone Company (Chester or the Company) for the Commission to allow the Company to remove from its rate base on an accelerated basis certain obsolete digital central office equipment. According to Chester, this equipment is no longer in use. With regard to the Chester Switching Office, the Company is requesting a five (5) year extraordinary retirement schedule of the obsolete digital central office equipment. Chester would ordinarily depreciate the equipment over a 7.54 year period. Also, certain equipment is to be retired from the Great Falls Remote Switching Center. The Company again is requesting a five (5) year extraordinary retirement schedule. The Company would ordinarily depreciate this equipment over a 9.54 year period.

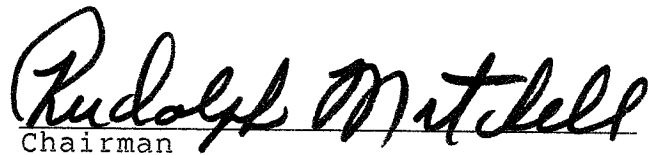
The Commission's Executive Director instructed the Company to cause to be published a prepared Notice of Filing in newspapers of general circulation in the Company's service area. The Notice of Filing indicated the nature of the Company's application and

advised all interested parties desiring to participate in the proceeding of the manner and time in which to file the appropriate pleadings. The Company furnished affidavits demonstrating that the Notice of Filing had been duly published. No Petitions to Intervene or Protests were received.


The Commission has examined this matter and approves the Company's request. The Company's request is consistent with certain past practices of the Commission in which various companies requested removal from rate base on an accelerated basis various obsolete equipment. The Commission finds that a five (5) year extraordinary retirement on the pieces of equipment stated is appropriate in the present case.

This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:


Chairman

ATTEST:


Executive Director

(SEAL)